

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-19, 21-27, 37-42, 49-57, 64-75, and 85 are pending in this paper. Claims 2, 11, 20 28-36, 43-48, 58-63 and 76-84 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claim 85 is newly added. Claims 1, 10, 19, 37, 39, 41, 49, 52, 55, 64, 68, and 72, which are independent, are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification.

No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10, 12-14, 16, 49, and 50-54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,469,216 to Takahashi et al. (hereinafter, merely "Takahashi") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,436,659 to Vincent et al. (hereinafter, merely "Vincent") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,499,494 to Dischert (hereinafter, merely "Dischert") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,222,985 to Miyake (hereinafter, merely "Miyake") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,400,890 to Nagasaka et al. (hereinafter,

merely “Nagasaka”) and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0101168 to Nomura et al. (hereinafter, merely “Nomura”).

Claims 64-71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Takahashi, Vincent, Dischert, Miyake, and in view of Nagasaka.

Claims 37-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Takahashi, Vincent, Dischert, Miyake, Nagasaka, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,614,846 to Fujiwara et al. (hereinafter, merely “Fujiwara”).

Claims 19, 21-23, 25, 41-42, and 55-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Takahashi, Vincent, Dischert, Miyake, Nagasaka, Fujiwara, and in view of Official Notice.

Claims 72-75 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Takahashi, Vincent, Dischert, Miyake, Nagasaka, and in view of Official Notice.

Claims 6, 8, 9, 15, 17, 18, 24, 26, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Takahashi, Vincent, Dischert, Miyake, Nagasaka, Fujiwara, Nomura and in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,748,235 to Kondo et al. (hereinafter, merely “Kondo”).

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTION

Claim 85 is newly added. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification, at least at pages 32-35 and Figure 4.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“pixel-generating means for generating more than one color components for the pixel of interest in accordance with the class determined by the class-determining means,

wherein the more than one color components include one color component that is the same as that of the input signal of the pixel of interest and a color component that is different from that of the input signal of the pixel of interest.” (emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that Takahashi, Vincent, Dischert, Miyake, Nagasaka, Nomura, Kondo, and Official Notice, taken either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, nothing is found in the references which the Office Action relied on that teaches or suggests “pixel-generating means for generating more than one color components for the pixel of interest in accordance with the class determined by the class-determining means and wherein the more than one color components include one color component that is the same as that of the input signal of the pixel of interest and a color component that is different from that of the input signal of the pixel of interest”, as recited in claim 1.

Indeed as claimed in claim 1, a pixel-generating means generates more than one color components for the pixel of interests. Applicants submit that the art used as a basis of rejection fails to teach or suggest this feature.

First, the Office Action (see page 3) relies on element 5 of Figure 1 and column 3, lines 33-42 of Takahashi to reject the pixel-generating means in claim 1. The cited portion of Takahashi describes predicting a pixel from prediction taps. However, Takahashi creates a pixel in a high definition digital video signal based on a standard definition digital video signal (see column 1, lines 20-25 of Takahashi). Nothing in Takahashi discloses or suggests that the high definition digital video signal and the standard definition digital video signal have difference color components.

Second, Takahashi's equations 3-9 for predicting a pixel do not generate a color different from the pixel of interests. Therefore, it is clear that Takahashi's predicted pixel has the same number of color components as the pixel of interests. Thus, claim 1 recites generating at least a color component different from the pixel of interests in the input signal, which is not shown or suggested by Takahashi. For at least the above cited reasons, claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 10, 19, 37, 39, 41, 49, 52, 55, 64, 68, and 72 are similar, or somewhat similar, in scope with claim 1 and are therefore patentable for similar, or somewhat similar, reasons.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Similarly, because Applicants maintain that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicants reserve the right to address such comments.

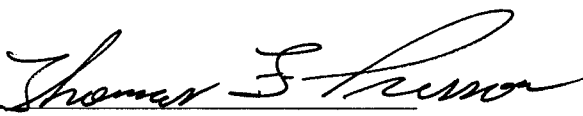
CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance and request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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